

Amendments to the Specification

On page 7, lines 2-10, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Four distinct classes of interferons (IFNs) are known to exist in humans. The IFN- α family represents the predominant class of IFNs and are produced by stimulated peripheral blood leukocytes (10-15, 17-27, 29, 50, 51, 57-59, 61, 63, 64, 68, 70), and lymphoblastoid and myeloblastoid cell lines (28, 30, 60). Cloning of the IFN- α genes from these cells has revealed that IFN- α is encoded by a multigene family consisting of about 15 functional genes and four pseudogenes (17, 26, 27, 29, 31, 50, 51, 53, 54, 57, 61, 63, 64, 65). U.S. Patent No. 4,801,685 by Goeddel, D.V., and Pestka, S., states "The hybridizations were performed at 15° C in 6XSSC, 10X Denhardt's solution, as described by Wallace et al. (Nucleic Acids Res. 6,3543-3557 (1979)). Filters were washed for 5' (3 times) at 0° C. in 6X SSC, dried, and exposed to x-ray film." It has been uncertain whether or not some of the cloned human IFN- α genes and cDNAs with few nucleotide differences, such as the Hu-IFN- α A, Hu-IFN- α 2 and Hu-IFN- α 2(Arg) genes, are allelic variants or represent distinct genes.